


AGENDA ITEM #9
September 15, 2009

Public Hearing/Action

MEMORANDUM

July 24, 2009

TO: County Council

FROM: Susan J. Farag, Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation - \$53,330 for a FY09 Byrne Justice Recovery Act (BJRA)

BACKGROUND

On July 28, 2009, a special appropriation to the FY10 Operating Budget for the Police Department was introduced, requesting appropriation authority to spend \$53,330 awarded under the federal Byrne grant. According to the Executive's Transmittal Memo, these funds will be used to restore a Crime Analyst position that was cut during the FY10 budget process. This grant supports the hiring and retention of one crime analyst for one year only.

CRIME ANALYST POSITION

During the FY10 budget process, the Executive's recommended FY10 budget included the abolishment of two crime analyst positions – a supervisor and an analyst within the Crime Analysis Section. At that time, Council staff was very concerned about these reductions, indicating that the crime analysis function was a very important component of the Department's ability to track and evaluate crime trends, particularly for such crimes as larceny, where a police officer generally does not file a report.

Duties

Crime Analysts use available resources to identify and collect crime data; identify existing or developing crime patterns and series; and develop information leading to the identification and/or apprehension of those responsible for crime. They evaluate information from multiple sources and determine the importance of the data; draw inferences and assess the relationship between numerous variables; and synthesize information into a logical framework.

Analysts must be able to use computers, productivity software (Microsoft Word, Access, Excel and PowerPoint) and analysis-specific applications (CRIMESOLV™ and ArcGIS GIS software), to manage data and develop useful products. They develop nine timely and informative products (alerts, bulletins, statistical summaries, charts/graphs and memoranda) relating to crime pattern/series/trends, suspect development, wanted subjects, arrests and case closures and meet regularly with representatives of the geographical assignment to discuss issues of current and anticipated concern.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

This special appropriation is being presented to the Council without review by the Public Safety Committee. Action is scheduled to follow today's public hearing.

Council staff recommends approval.

This packet contains:

Executive Transmittal Memo

Draft Special Appropriation Resolution

Special Appropriation Request Summary

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: July 28, 2009
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: County Council at the Request of the County Executive

Subject: Special Appropriation #10-280 to the FY10 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Police - \$53,330
Byrne Justice Recovery Act (BJRA) Grant - \$53,330

Background

1. Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that a special appropriation: (a) may be made at any time after public notice by news release; (b) must state that the special appropriation is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency or to act without delay in the public interest; (c) must specify the revenues necessary to finance it; and (d) must be approved by no fewer than six members of the Council.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY10 Operating Budget appropriation increases:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
Police	\$53,330	\$0	\$0	\$53,330	Federal Grant

3. This increase is needed because the Montgomery County Police Department has received this award through the Byrne Justice Recovery Act (BJFA) Grant competitive process. The \$53,330 will replace one (1) of two (2) analysts that were cut in the FY10 Operating Budget.
4. The County Executive has requested a special appropriation to the FY10 Operating Budget in the amount of \$53,330 for Byrne Justice Recovery Act (BJRA) grant and specifies that the source of funds will be Federal grant.
5. The public was notified by a news release.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following actions:

1. A special appropriation to the FY10 Operating Budget of the following department in the amount of \$53,330 is approved as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
Police	\$53,330	\$0	\$0	\$53,330	Federal Grant

2. The County Council declares that this action is necessary to act without delay in the public interest.
3. Any funds appropriated in this resolution must not be spent for any purpose until 2 days after the Council has received from the County Executive a copy of the grant award letter from the Federal or state government which provides all funds to be spent."

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

OPERATING BUDGET**SUPPLEMENTAL OR SPECIAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST SUMMARY****1. Please fill in the following table:**

Agency	
Department	Police
Fund (County Government only)	Federal grant
Fiscal year	2010
Supplemental or Special	Special
Operating or Capital budget	Operating

2. What is the amount and source of funding?

Source of funding (Please list sources)	Amount
Byrne Justice Recovery Act (BJRA)	\$53,330
Total request	\$53,330

3. Is the request one-time or continuing? If continuing and funded by a grant, what will you do when the grant ends?

One-time

4. Please provide a brief description, justification, expected outcomes, and how the outcomes will be measured.

The program supports the hiring and retention of one crime analyst. Grant funds provide salary. Crime analysts in Montgomery play a critical role in directly supporting investigators, officers and decision makers with timely, actionable information leading to effective decisions about who has committed crime, where they can be found, where commanders should deploy their resources and how to understand crime trends strategically due to their COMP-STAT process. This new crime analyst will replace 1 of 2 analysts that were cut in our most recent budget process.

5. Please explain why you did not request this during the annual budget process.

This is a part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

6. For your agency, what is the current fiscal year budget for the relevant fund and what is the latest estimate? (do not fill out if the appropriation is funded entirely by a non-County grant)

Budget for current fiscal year for the relevant fund	
+ Supplemental/special appropriations already approved	0
= Revised budget for current fiscal year	
Latest estimate of spending for current year	